

From: Shin-Roei Lee
To: Andree Greenberg
CC: Bruce Wolfe; Elizabeth Morrison
Date: Thursday, May 21, 2009 11:22 AM
Subject: Fwd: Peninsula housing project on Bay causes uproar
Attachments: Peninsula housing project on Bay causes uproar

Hi Andree, Based on this newsletter, Cargill filed the application with Redwood City on Tuesday, May 19. I briefed Bruce yesterday and he is OK that we go to the site tour offered by Cargill on 7/15. At the every end of the news article, it mentioned Redwood City won't spend too much time on the application until it updates its general plan by the end of 2009. It makes me wonder if we need to track or comment on the GP update to get our comments in early in the process. Please check Redwood City's web site for any GP info. Thanks!

From: "David Lewis" <dlewis@savesfbay.org>
To: "David Lewis (E-mail)" <dlewis@savesfbay.org>
Date: Thursday, May 21, 2009 11:09 AM
Subject: Peninsula housing project on Bay causes uproar

ABC TV-7 video clip featuring Citizens Committee to Complete the Refuge's Florence LaRiviere

SJ Mercury News on project opposition: "This is not an infill site and it is not an appropriate place for housing and commercial development"

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<http://abclocal.go.com/kgo/video?id=6823885>

Peninsula housing project causes uproar

By David Louie

REDWOOD CITY, CA (KGO) -- A proposal to build more than 10,000 bay-front homes is prompting swift reaction in Redwood City. It used to be Cargil Salt property and while the developer pitches his plan, environmentalists have other ideas.

At just over 1,400 acres, the salt evaporation ponds adjacent to San Francisco Bay could be the site some day of 12,000 houses and a community of 30,000 residents. Arizona-based developer DMB Associates <<http://search.abclocal.go.com/search/results?station=kgo&search=siteSearch&q=DMB+Associates>> just filed its proposal with Redwood City officials and it's generating plenty of reaction.

"The comments from the public so far have been very divisive. There are people commenting on all different sides of the issue, and they're very concerned about both for and against the project," said Redwood City Senior Planner Blake Lyon.

The planned community will be called Redwood City Saltworks <<http://search.abclocal.go.com/search/results?station=kgo&search=siteSearch&q=Redwood+City+Saltworks>>. The developer says it enlisted the

community to plan it.

"We spent three years engaged with the community, asking them what their priorities are as it relates to the future use of this property, and the 50-50 Balanced Plan is the product of that outreach process whereby fifty percent of the site is going to be open space, restored tidal wetlands all at private expense, and the other half will be a mixed use, transit-oriented community," said Redwood City Saltworks General Manager John Bruno

Instead of housing, environmental groups say the wetlands should be restored to their original state. It is a cause that Palo Alto resident Florence LaRiviere has been promoting for over 50 years.

"Seven-hundred acres is the largest I've seen described in 50 or 60 years. That was part of San Francisco Bay. It was leveled off from what was tidal marshes, beautiful tidal marshes, and it should go back to that," said LaRiviere.

The city intends to hold a series of meetings to hear from the public, while city staff evaluates the viability of the project.

Demand for police and fire services, water usage and traffic are among the issues to be studied. Regional, state and federal agencies will also have their say. City officials say the review process may take five years, but the developer says they'd like to break ground in 2013, that's four years from now.

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San Jose Mercury News May 21, 2009

Cargill files Bayfront development application

By Shaun Bishop

Daily News Staff Writer

http://www.mercurynews.com/breakingnews/ci_12409119?nclick_check=1

The long-awaited application for a massive development that includes thousands of housing units and restored wetlands on 1,433 acres of salt ponds in Redwood City

http://topics.mercurynews.com/Northern_California_Cities.html?source=sp here_topics_inline> was submitted to the city on Tuesday. The controversial project on a large swath of Bayfront land owned by Cargill Inc. - the Peninsula's largest proposed construction project in decades - was delivered to city officials late Tuesday afternoon, said Pete Hillan, a spokesman for the Arizona-based development firm DMB Associates, which drew up the plans for the site.

City officials say they will review the developer's application to make sure it is complete so they can begin in-depth studies of the project, a process that is likely to take years. At a briefing last week, DMB officials said the plans call for the construction of 8,000 to 12,000 units of housing over a period of 25 years, adding some 25,000 new residents to Redwood City, which currently has a population of roughly

76,000. DMB also wants to build at least five schools, 200 acres of parks and open space, and a 50-acre sports field complex. The project includes restoring about 450 acres of the site to natural wetland habitat at the developer's expense, but opponents of the project say that's not enough.

Anticipating the development plan, leaders from seven Bay Area environmentalist groups released a joint statement Tuesday reiterating their view that the entire Cargill site should be restored. Among the groups opposed to the project are Save the Bay, the Sierra Club's Loma Prieta chapter, the Committee for Green Foothills and the Friends of Redwood City.

"Cargill and DMB's proposed project will destroy Bay shoreline open space that should be restored and put new development in the path of flood waters and rising sea level," the joint statement said. "This is not an infill site and it is not an appropriate place for housing and commercial development; Redwood City should continue its smart growth redevelopment downtown."

DMB officials said the new housing will allow employees of Peninsula companies to live closer to work and avoid longer commutes. The developer said 15 percent of the housing would be sold at below-market rates. Mayor Rosanne Foust said last week that the city's planning staff won't devote its full attention to the Cargill proposal until near the end of this year, when the city expects to finish work on its new general plan.

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